



NEWS RELEASE

MAINE DISTRICT OFFICE

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SBA REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

Augusta, Me -- Jeffrey Butland, New England Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will be making a presentation at the Washington County Business Conference and Market Place on Friday, April 30th at the Washington County Community College.

Butland will be presenting a "Golden Book" to Nancy Raye, General Manager, Raye's Mustard Mill in Eastport. This book is SBA's 50th Anniversary tribute to New England small business success. Raye's Mustard is one of Maine's businesses featured in this special publication.

Butland said, "Small businesses are the foundation of our nation and our regions' economy. The spirit of entrepreneurship is, and always has been, the basis of Maine's economy. The Raye family has been grinding mustard in the same location since 1903. That year, J.W. "Wes" Raye, whose father captained coastal schooners on the Bay of Fundy, set up his first mill to grind mustard sauces for the growing sardine industry, Wes Raye, like thousands of Mainers, saw an opportunity and built a business. Nancy and the mill her grandfather founded stand as a testament to the tenacity with which succeeding generations of Maine entrepreneurs preserve the quality of the past while adapting to a changing world."

Butland added, "The SBA has long been a force on the side of small business and we are determined to continue this tradition. If entrepreneurs cannot come to us, we will go to them. The SBA's new rural initiative is designed to 'reach out in person' to Maine's rural microbusinesses. As an agency, we will do whatever we have to in order to continue to expand our support of small businesses in Maine and New England." he added.

